Northern Region 200 East Broadway Missoula, MT 59802

File Code: 1570 (215)

#13-01-00-0042

Date: September 5, 2013

Dick Artley 415 NE 2nd Street Grangeville, ID 83530 CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED NUMBER: 7011 3500 0002 9934 3315

Dear Mr. Artley:

This is my decision on disposition of the appeal you filed regarding the Middle Bugs Project Decision Notice (DN) on the Nez Perce Clearwater National Forest.

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in the Forest Supervisor's August 27, 2013, transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the DN and project file, which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate in this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter and recommends the Forest Supervisor's decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by the Forest Supervisor, I find the objections were adequately considered in the DN. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisor has made a reasoned decision and has complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm the Forest Supervisor's decision to implement the Middle Bugs Project. Your requested relief is denied.

My decision constitutes the final administrative determination of the Department of Agriculture [36 CFR 215.18(c)].

SINCERELY,

Deputy Regional Forester

cc: Rick Brazell, Norma Staaf, Ray G Smith, Allen Byrd



